American Committee of Medical Entomology (ACME)

ACME Young Investigator Travel Awards

ACME works to promote medical entomology within ASTMH and in organizations whose scopes of activities include the area of human diseases transmitted by arthropods. We seek opportunities to emphasize and expand the contributions of medical entomology to tropical medicine and also to appropriately recognize outstanding contributions by next-generation medical entomologists.

ACME is soliciting applications for its Young Investigator Travel Awards and encourages applicants at the Masters, Doctoral and Post-doctoral level to apply. Recipients will be chosen according to a rigorous review process by the ACME Young Investigator Travel Awards committee, including any decisions related to eligibility of applicants for award type. Awards will be given according to: 1) the top graduate level (Masters and Doctoral); 2) the top post-doctoral level; and 3) the top international investigator.

All recipients will be awarded a cash prize and a complimentary registration to support travel and accommodation to attend the Annual Meeting, November 13-17, 2024, New Orleans, LA. During the Annual Meeting, the selected winners will present either orally or in a poster format his or her research that must involve arthropods of medical importance. **Award recipients are required to attend the full Annual Meeting in person to receive their award.** Announcement of award winners will be made during the ACME Annual Business Annual Meeting. Recipients will be invited to attend the President’s Reception held during the Annual Meeting. **If you have previously received an ACME Young Investigator Award, you are not eligible to receive another ACME Young Investigator Award.**

The following criteria must be met for eligibility and will be considered in the application review process:

- significance and quality of presentation abstract
- career level (graduate, post-doc)
- country of primary institution (specific for the International Award)
- financial need
- letter of recommendation

**Timeline:**

- **Online application site** – Opens March 20, 2024
- **Application deadline** – April 17, 2024
- **Notification** - Award notices will be sent in July 2024.
Award Type and Information

I. YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD - GRADUATE (Masters or Doctoral Career Level in 2024)
The recipient(s) will be awarded up to $900 US to support travel and accommodation costs to attend the Annual Meeting in person to present his or her studies and a complimentary registration. The award will be presented during the ACME Annual Business Annual Meeting. Submit your application online.

II. YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD - POST-DOCTORAL (2022-2024 Graduates)
The recipient(s) will be awarded up to $900 US to support travel and accommodation costs to attend the Annual Meeting in person to present his or her studies and a complimentary registration. The award will be presented during the ACME Annual Business Annual Meeting. Submit your application online.

III. YOUNG INVESTIGATOR AWARD – INTERNATIONAL (Country of primary institution must be non-U.S.)
ACME is pleased to announce a special award for international students. The recipient will be awarded up to $2000 US to support travel and accommodation costs to attend the Annual Meeting in person to present his or her studies and a complimentary registration. The award will be presented during the ACME Annual Business Meeting. Submit your application online.

Application Instructions:

Collect all application materials prior to submitting them to the online awards system. Although the applicant will be able to edit his or her award submission prior to the April 17 deadline, the submission process will be much easier if the applicant collects all application materials prior to submission.

Application materials:

- A cover letter describing the applicant’s research interest in medical entomology (approximately 2,500 character limit).

- Description of financial need to attend the Annual Meeting (approximately 1,500 character limit) and how the applicant will benefit from the ACME travel award.

- A copy of the applicant’s ASTMH Annual Meeting abstract, with the abstract number assigned by the abstract submission site, example: 24-A-1234-ASTMH – Applicant’s should submit and pay their abstract fee to the online abstract submission site by the April 17 abstract submission deadline.

- Letter of recommendation in pdf or Microsoft Word format on letterhead from a major professor or faculty advisor. Please be sure that this person’s full contact information is included in the letter or is listed on the letterhead.

- 2x2 high-resolution headshot photo to be used on signage at the Annual Meeting.

Very important... The letter of recommendation must be uploaded directly to the ASTMH application site by the applicant’s major professor/faculty advisor. The submission site will ask the applicant to provide the name, mailing address, phone and email for the professor/advisor. The submission program will then generate an email to this person with instructions to upload the letter of recommendation to the ASTMH application site. It is very important that the applicant gathers the contact information for this person prior to beginning their online submission. It is then the applicant’s responsibility to communicate with this professor/advisor to ensure that he/she has received the email generated by the submission site and has uploaded the letter by the April 17 deadline.
After April 17, any application that does not include the letter of recommendation will be considered incomplete and will not be forwarded to the review committee.

**Finalizing the application:**

After entering all information into the online application and after all document uploads are complete, go to the REVIEW SUBMISSION page and scroll down to the bottom. If all information has been entered correctly, a drop-down menu will appear at the bottom of the page. Select the response of COMPLETE in the drop-down menu and press SAVE. The application will then be complete and ready for review.

**Questions? Contact:**

**Buffy Finn**  
Manager, Membership  
Phone +1-703-650-5830
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>5-excellent</th>
<th>4-good</th>
<th>3-fair</th>
<th>2-poor</th>
<th>1-reject</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cover Letter (Research Interest in Medical Entomology)</strong></td>
<td>Demonstrates exceptional clarity, depth, and relevance of research interest in medical entomology with tangible examples</td>
<td>Describes research interest in medical entomology with good depth and relevance but may lack tangible examples</td>
<td>Provides a fair overview of research interest in medical entomology, but lacks depth or relevance in some areas</td>
<td>Shows limited clarity or depth in expressing research interest in medical entomology</td>
<td>No research interest in medical entomology or no statement provided</td>
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<td><strong>Financial Need and Benefit Statement</strong></td>
<td>Clearly outlines financial need and compellingly explains how benefit of attending the Annual Meeting. Financial need within award amount</td>
<td>Describes financial need and explains benefit of attending the Annual Meeting, but lacks specificity or depth</td>
<td>Demonstrates limited clarity or detail in describing financial need and/or the benefits of attending the Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Does not meet first criteria or no statement provided or requests an unreasonable amount e.g. $10,000</td>
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<td><strong>Submitted Annual meeting abstract</strong></td>
<td>Excellent abstract with clear relevance to medical entomology, reflecting outstanding research</td>
<td>Good abstract with relevance to medical entomology, reflecting robust research</td>
<td>Fair-quality abstract with some relevance to medical entomology and/or research that lacks depth or significance</td>
<td>Poor-quality abstract with limited medical entomology relevance and/or describes poor research</td>
<td>Does not meet any of the above criteria and/or uses the same abstract for more than one application</td>
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<td><strong>Letter of Recommendation</strong></td>
<td>Enthusiastically supports applicant’s qualifications, potential &amp; justifies financial need</td>
<td>Effectively supports applicant’s qualifications, potential but does not justify financial need</td>
<td>Supports applicant’s qualifications and potential but lacks depth—apparent lack of familiarity with applicant’s qualification, &amp; does not justify financial need</td>
<td>Limited support for applicant’s qualifications and potential—only describes type and length of relationship and/or only restates applicant’s article title; does not justify financial need</td>
<td>Does not meet any of the above criteria or no letter provided.</td>
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<td><strong>Total score</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Average score</strong></td>
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Final evaluation scale: 5 = Excellent, 4 = Good, 3 = Fair, 2 = Poor, 1 = Reject